(a) whether Government have recently approved a Mega Housing Scheme for the poor residing in urban and rural areas particularly the people living in slums of towns and cities at half of the cost price;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the modalities for sanctioning of houses;

(d) the details of Central allocations made for the implementation of the scheme during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(e) the number of families, likely to be benefited under this scheme during the said period, State-wise, particularly in Rajasthan and Orissa; and

(0 by when the scheme is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) The Government has decided to launch Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana with the objective of providing shelter or upgrading the existing shelter for people living below the poverty line in urban slums. The scheme will be funded by the budget grants to the extent of 50 per cent leaving the balance to be matched by the State Government with funds from other sources or through loans from HUDCO.

(d) The Government has decided to launch the scheme in the current year with an allocation of Rs. 100 crores as subsidy. The details of the scheme will be reviewed by the Government before its inclusion in the Tenth Five Year Plan period to ensure convergence with similar ongoing schemes of the department.

(e) and (0 4 lakhs additional houses are expected to be completed annually in urban areas for the urban poor. State-wise targets have not yet been fixed. The scheme will be implemented after the guidelines are framed and approved.

**Funds for infrastructure development of Mega Cities**

1496. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has sanctioned an3 released funds for the infrastructure development of mega cities to the nodal agencies though the agencies did not set up the revolving funds for the purpose and did not operate in the prescribed manner;

(b) whether it is a fact that large sum of money under the scheme were lying unspent with the nodal agencies at the end of 1999-2000; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) It is a fact that this Ministry had sanctioned and released funds under the Mega City Scheme to the nodal agencies. Revolving Fund has been set up. All the nodal agencies are sanctioning projects under the scheme generally in accordance with the guidelines.

(b) and (c) It is correct that some funds have remained unspent mainly due to release of funds to the implementing agencies depending upon the progress of the projects. The State Governments/Nodal Agencies have been asked to gear up implementing agencies and strengthen the existing monitoring mechanism.

**DDA houses declared as dangerous**

†1497. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of houses constructed by the Delhi Development Authority have been declared as dangerous;

(b) if so, the total number thereof and whether Government have conducted any enquiry into the matter; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Delhi Development Authority have reported that 1250 Nos. flats were declared as dangerous in 08 schemes. Out of the aforesaid 1250 Nos. flats, 1050 Nos, flats stand already demolished and the remaining 200 flats are under the process of demolition. Out of the flats declared dangerous, none of the flat was allotted.

Disciplinary proceedings were initiated against 32 officials. Major penalty was imposed on 10 officials, minor penalty was imposed on 04 officials, cases against 03 officials have been closed and 06 cases are under various stages of disciplinary proceedings. Besides this, there is a stay from Court in 09 cases.

†Original notice of the question was reeceived in Hindi.